

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS OF ARKANSAS**

IN RE: COURT OPERATIONS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

Effective immediately this 16th day of March, 2020, the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas will and does hereby suspend all IN COURT hearings until further notice. This is, of course, in recognition of and deference to the possible pandemic ramifications of the COVID-19 virus.

Equally, however, and notwithstanding the above, the bankruptcy court recognizes that bankruptcy cases and proceedings are individually and collectively often inextricably part of a continuing process of either liquidation or reorganization. Accordingly, this requisite will be addressed in three ways.

First, every effort will be made to keep the clerk's offices open in both Little Rock and Fayetteville in order to conduct business as usual in processing and dealing with filed cases and proceedings.

Second, all chambers are available by email and phone whether in office or working remotely. Every effort will be made to attend and be responsive to all parties' needs and requirements.

Third, all matters currently set for March, April, May, and the reasonably foreseeable future will remain on each court's docket. The initial purpose of this is to ensure the continuity of the bankruptcy process in the context of both liquidation and reorganization, regardless of chapter. As stated above, however, the court anticipates that there will be no actual IN COURT hearings. This methodology will hopefully ensure that the administration of cases will continue through settlement, routine continuances, and the entry of appropriate orders. In the event that it becomes

necessary to try a proceeding either on the date scheduled or on a special setting, the court in each individual chambers will determine the necessity and commensurate method of proceeding, including potentially telephonic or audio/visual hearings. The anticipation is that counsel will be in contact with the individual chambers to work out the need and procedures for effectively allowing the liquidation or reorganization process to continue.

As all parties are aware, this potential pandemic represents a fluid situation that may necessitate some changes in the above. Every effort will be made to communicate with the parties as events develop. The court also expects that the parties will be reasonable and accommodate each other given the ongoing nature of bankruptcy cases and commensurate deadlines.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

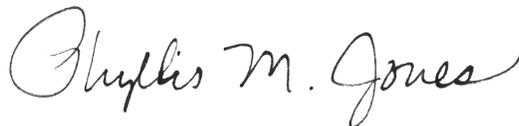
Dated this 16th day of March, 2020.



HONORABLE BEN T. BARRY
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE



HONORABLE RICHARD D. TAYLOR
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE



HONORABLE PHYLLIS M. JONES
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE